

Help available at Student Development Center

by Donna Bates

There is a big problem at UNLV. Returning students have it and every freshman soon encounters it. It's called stress.

But there is help available at the Student Development Center located on the second floor of the UNLV library. This assistance is mostly free to students.

The center has a variety of information and counseling services that can help students cope with stress by confronting their academic or personal problems.

Counseling Psychologist Theresa Nicassio said any student seeking assistance "must

come in and fill out the necessary paper work and make an appointment for an intake assessment."

The intake assessment is the first session during which the student and the counselor discuss the student's needs and concerns and talk about possible options.

If the problem is a personal one, students have the choice of being counseled as an individual, with his or her partner or getting involved in a variety of group help situations.

There are four types of groups one can join: an adults from dysfunctional families group containing three to eight people, a relaxation group with

10 to 12 members, or the communications skills or assertiveness groups which consist of 10 to 12 people.

The Student Development Center has three full-time psychologists on staff in addition to co-leaders—graduate students from the areas of counselling, psychology and social work.

Nicassio said that ideally there should be 20 psychologists on staff to meet the needs of every student who comes for help. At present approximately 50 percent of the students are referred elsewhere for counseling because the center is filled to capacity.

The center also provides general consultation in the form

of a referral service for students, staff, faculty and the community. "Students who have questions about any subject will be told where to find more information on that subject," said Nicassio.

Other services provided by the Student Development Center are drug and alcohol abuse counselling, career interest testing and a 24 hour information hot line which provides confidential information on a variety of topics including AIDS, nutrition and contraception.

To deal with school inspired stress the Student Development Center offers academic counselling and tutoring services. Program Assistant Glenda Wash-

ington said tutoring is offered in all of the most popular freshman courses and, if a class requested for tutoring is not offered, they will try to find a tutor.

There is a per-hour fee and an \$8 refundable deposit for tutoring. The deposit is meant to cover for up to two absences after which the student is discontinued from the program.

The academic counselling division can also help with problems such as undeclared majors, special students, non-students, early study students and the overflow of admissions. The center also gives admissions exams and graduate school testing.

Universal ID program implemented

by Wendy Brajkovich

Student ID cards offer more than a pretty picture. Beginning this semester, the new ID cards will enable students to check out books at the library, use the various services offered by the Moyer Student Union and many other services at the university.

The new ID cards are available in the information

booth in the MSU for \$5. Stickers, which will update IDs from last semester to the current semester, are \$1. A universal code on the card will replace all of the different bar code labels previously being used on campus.

Before the services can be taken advantage of, however, the new student ID system must be installed. The system is currently being installed and should be on line by October.

Theresa Chiang, director of

the Moyer Student Union, said, "The old system often broke down and cost a lot of money in repairs." She also said it was time to replace the equipment because the ID cards were looking "tacky."

The system for the new cards is part of a national trend which cost the university approximately \$120,000.

Sophomore Amy Huggins said, "I am willing to pay the \$5 fee again, even though I pur-

chased an ID only two years ago, just as long as it makes it easier to verify that I am a full-time UNLV student."

Senior Shannon Hymer, is not against paying the \$5 fee for another ID, but she decided against it since this is her last year at UNLV and she probably won't need it anyway. Hymer also likes the idea that buying the card is not mandatory.



Political satirist Mark Russell

Russell thrives at election time

by Thomas Moore

Political absurdities and campaign silliness will be the target of noted political satirist Mark Russell's performance tonight at the Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall. The appearance is part of the Marjorie Barrick Lecture Series.

For an experienced satirist like Russell, an election year can be especially fruitful considering the humorous ammunition political campaigns provide.

Russell divides his barbs equally amongst Democrat and Republican targets and has become a regular fixture on Public Television.

The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. and is free, but tickets are required for admission and can be picked up at the Performing Arts Center box office at the entrance to Ham Hall.

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sexual behavior to discount her testimony.

Dress and past behavior cannot be used in court to justify a rape.

The panel also discussed men and rape. Rodriguez complained that not enough men had attended the forum and said "you don't have to be a woman to worry about this issue."

It comes down to "human rights" he said, and added, "We need to talk about it together."

"Men can also be victimized," Rodriguez said. Cirri said that "male victims often turn into sex offenders" because they "don't have permission to talk about it."

The advice the entire panel offered to friends and family of victims was to listen.

"Don't ask questions like what were you wearing, or why were you there," Rodriguez said.

"Alcohol can be a contributing factor in many rapes," Gayla Baker said while stressing prevention. She also advised the audience members to avoid dangerous situations.

Cirri said the best prevention program is to admit "I am a potential victim."

The forum was sponsored by the UNLV Women's Center.

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The address ended on an emotional note with the presentation of a docu-

mentary-style video. The video was a collection of impromptu interviews of students, faculty, and the president himself, all offering their views and opinions on what UNLV has to offer.



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